

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Minoru SHINOHARA

Appln. No.:

Filed: Herewith

For: A SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

* * *

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified
patent application as indicated below.

IN THE CLAIMS:

- 1 5. (Amended) A semiconductor device according to claim
- 2 1, wherein cutout portions are formed in part of the
- 3 reinforcing patterns.

Please add the following claim:

- 1 17. (New) A semiconductor device according to claim 4,
- 2 wherein cutout portions are formed in part of the reinforcing
- 3 patterns.

REMARKS

Claim 5 has been amended to avoid the multiple dependent claim surcharge. Claim 17 presented herein corresponds to the dependency eliminated from Claim 5.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1165 any fees that may be required by this paper and to credit any overpayment to that Account.

Respectfully submitted,

MWS:sjk

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By: 

Mitchell W. Shapiro
Reg. No. 31,568

August 8, 2001

MARKED-UP VERSION OF THE CLAIMS:

1 5. (Amended) A semiconductor device according to claim
2 1 [or claim 4], wherein cutout portions are formed in part of
3 the reinforcing patterns.